



# DAILY REPUBLICAN.

R. E. HAMSHER, J. M. MOSSER.  
HAMSHER & MOSSER, Prop'trs.  
DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

Entered at the Post Office at Decatur, Illinois,  
as second class mail matter.

FRIDAY EVE., MAY 11, 1888.

A. E. STEVENSON, First Assistant Postmaster General, has written to the Hon. James S. Ewing, of Bloomington, member of the Democratic State Central Committee, requesting that his name be not presented to the Illinois convention as candidate for Governor.

**COLONEL JAMES S. MARTIN,** who was yesterday elected chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, is a good politician in the best sense of the term, an old campaigner, and has a good knowledge of what is supposed to be the weak points in the Republican line. Mr. Jones, who retires from the chairmanship, has a record of long and creditable service, and in that service, which has involved much hard work and not a little self-sacrifice, he has made a national reputation as an organizer and an aggressive campaigner. Dan Shober, who has been intimately associated with so many historic campaigns, was re-elected Secretary by common consent. In fact, no other man was thought of in connection with the office, all of which is complimentary to Mr. Shober. The new committee made a good start yesterday.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean*.

Says the *Hartford Post*: "A league of Democratic clubs is now proposed. Imitation is sincere flattery. The Democrats follow the footsteps of the Republicans as rapidly as they can, but they are always behind." Republicans lead; Democrats follow.

**PROTEST Transcript:** The Republicans of the Fourteenth District did them selves honor by renouncing Congresswoman Russell by acclamation. In Congress he is a good man in the right place.

**Prairie Transcript:** We are glad to announce that Dan Voorhees has sobered up. This is shown by the fact that he has apologized to the Senate for the indecent and ungentlemanly language he used. The apology is so ample as it should be, but it will do from Voorhees. He conveys the idea that he used the language under great provocation. What was the provocation? In the absence of the presiding officer of the Senate, Mr. Voorhees made a gross and impudent attack upon him. Mr. Ingalls upon hearing of it, arose and made a personal explanation. The obtuse individual from Indiana believed that he had Mr. Ingalls on the run, and was encouraged to still further attack the speaker. Then the exhibition of fireworks began. The torches were lit and the lighting played. But the job was done in such a gentlemanly way that poor old Dan was helpless. Ingalls drew nothing on him but his own record. He made no statement that he could not be substantiated. He used no language that was not parliamentary. Such a scene has not occurred in Congress since the days of John Randolph of Roanoke. Voorhees lost his temper, and insulted not only Senator Ingalls, but his language was an insult to every member of the Senate. He deserves a credit for his apology, because he could have done no less. The only thing on which Mr. Voorhees is to be congratulated is that last he is sober.

**NATIONAL GUN EXPOSITION.**  
Destruction of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, Buffalo, N. Y. Other Damages.  
**BUFFALO, N. Y., May 10.** An explosion of gunpowder, kept in a barrel at Pierre's Laundry Hotel at nine o'clock this morning, caused a blaze that threatened the destruction of the building. The guests were hurried out, but the flames were confined to the basement, with slight damage. Fifteen minutes later another explosion occurred, at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, at 10 A.M. The fire again reached the spire, the whole interior was in flames, and within half an hour the edifice was completely gutted. At least a dozen other explosions occurred at different points throughout the city. An explosion in North Street Church caused a blaze, which was extinguished by the fire department. Mrs. George W. Hamilton, on Delaware Avenue, also sustained slight damage from the same cause.

The reason assigned for the explosion is the breaking of a valve in the stand-pipe at East Buffalo, which contained the pressure of 100 pounds per square inch. St. Paul's Cathedral is one of the finest churches in Western New York, and cost \$100,000. The insurance is \$50,000, which, it is thought, will cover the loss. Just as the firemen were entering the kitchen at Pierre's Hotel a second explosion occurred, badly injuring four of their number. The damage to the hotel was slight.

**Female Bicyclists.**  
Pittsburgh, Pa., May 11. Articles were signed in this city yesterday for an international bicycle race for the world championship, best three in five hours, between Miss Jessie Clark, English champion, and Miss Blanche V. Miller, Elsie Van Slyck of Rochester, America's female champion. The contest will take place at Exposition Park, Allegheny City, on Decoration Day. The winner takes sixty-five and the loser thirty-five per cent of the gate receipts. The distance of the heats will not be less than one mile, nor over three miles, and will be determined by a toss on the day of the race.

**AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.**  
Important Business Transacted.—The Election of New Officers.  
**CINCINNATI, May 11.** At the opening of the Medical Convention yesterday, the secretary read a series of resolutions adopted by the Arkansas State Medical Association, which in the strongest possible terms denounced quackery and the journals, and especially the religious journals, who sold their advertising space to quacks and charlatans. The paper was applauded.

Dr. J. B. Hamilton, from the nominating committee, made the following report, which was adopted. President W. D. Dawson, Cincinnati; first vice-president, W. L. Schenck, Kansas; second vice-president, Dr. W. C. Stewart, Atlanta; third vice-president, H. C. Walker, Michigan; fourth vice-president, J. W. Barley, Georgia; treasurer, R. J. Dickinson, Pennsylvania; secretary, W. B. Atkinson, Pennsylvania; librarian, C. A. Kleinleinmidt, Washington, D. C.; trustee, F. Moore, New York; John H. Hollister, Boston; Jos. M. Towner, Director of Columbian.

Judicial Council—W. A. Phillips, Kansas; A. M. Pollock, Pennsylvania; U. C. Vanover, Maryland; F. H. Hubbard, Indiana; Charles S. Wood, New York; J. H. Gaston, Georgia; W. H. O. Taylor, New York; George S. Porter, Connecticut.

Newport, R. I., was chosen for the next place of meeting, in June of next year.

In M. L. Moore, Rochester, N. Y., read a comprehensive paper on "General

# BY TELEGRAPH.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Reunion of Survivors of the Famous Massachusetts Legion, late of 1851.

A Wealthy Indiana Farmer and His Hired Man Burned to Death in His Dwelling.

A Jealous Husband Murders His Wife and Commits Suicide—Quotable Boycott.

A Notable Gathering.

Boston, May 11.—Just now the survivors of the Massachusetts Legion, late of 1851, which had among its members Henry Wilson, Judge Benjamin R. Curtis and Caleb Cushing, and elected Charles Sumner to the United States Senate, sat down to a reunion dinner at the Revere House, Wednesday afternoon.

Ex-Governor Geo. W. Boutwell, who was Grant's Secretary of the Treasury, pre-

dicted that the country would be ex-Governor Nathaniel P. Banks, Henry J. Gardner and William Chaffin, and Messers. Samuel Warner, Daniel Sanders, Charles Theodore Russell, J. M. Usher and Nathaniel Donne, who were in the upper branch of the Legislature in 1851. Of the representatives of the year there were present, among others, Dr. L. Fish, of Albion College, Michigan, delegate from Detroit, who told the gathering that the anti-slavery movement had increased among the people there. The motion was carried.

Siah Sek Ong, delegate from Foochow, China, presented a memorial asking if converts from heathenism, having more than one wife, can continue in polygamy and at the same time be good Methodists. The motion was referred to the committee on the state of the church.

Dr. J. H. Bayliss introduced a resolution calling on the committee on judiciary to define what the constitution really is.

Dr. L. Fish, of Albion College, Michigan, delegate from Detroit, who told the gathering that the anti-slavery move-

ment had increased among the people there. The motion was carried.

It was voted to adjourn by excess of

majority, the bill not being in condition for early planting.

Dr. G. D. Osgood, Edward Mansfield, Charles W. Cushing, Samuel Clegg, George W. Nichols, Benjamin James,

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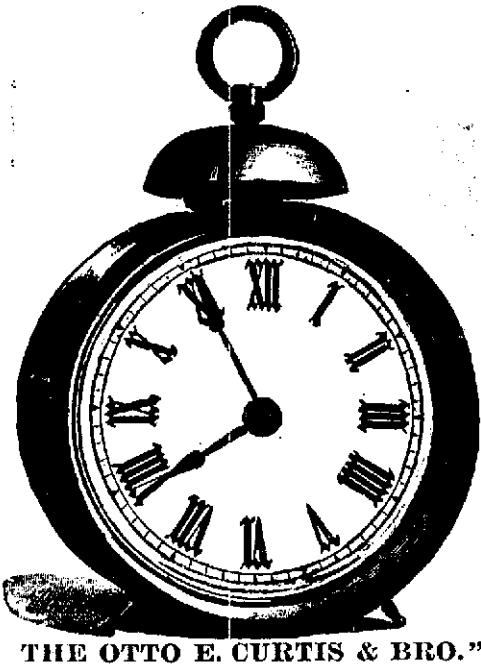
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# WAKE + UP!



THE OTTO E. CURTIS & BRO.

If you would have an Alarm Clock that is Reliable, buy "The Otto E. Curtis & Bro." Clock.

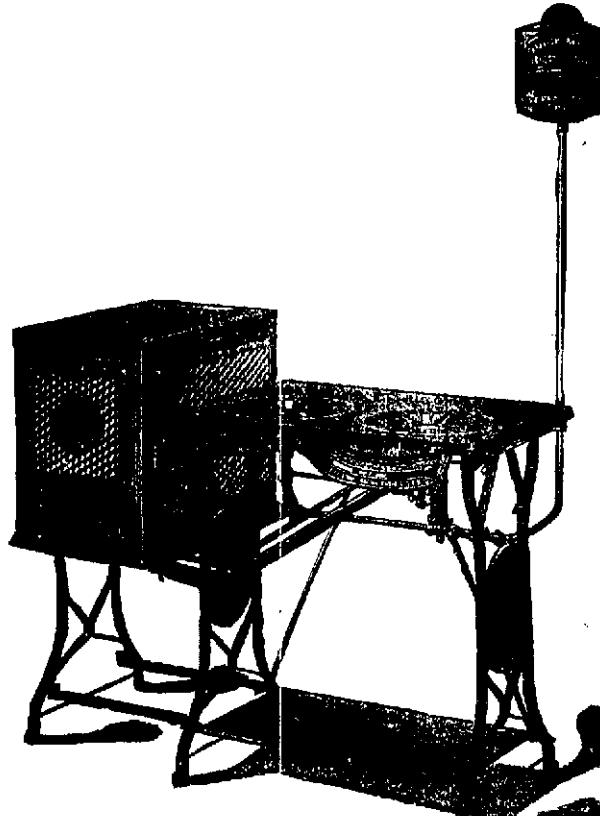
We have had so much trouble with the regular makes of Nickel Alarm Clocks that we have had this clock made up expressly for our Retail Trade, and we warrant every Clock. You will not be disappointed if you rely upon this clock to waken you mornings.

## OTTO E. CURTIS & BRO.,

Wholesale and Retail Jewelers.

156 EAST MAIN ST.

## The "QUICK MEAL" Gasoline Stove



### IS THE BOSS!

There are no Thumb Screws to turn to confuse people. The Patent Lever Valve is a "dead open and shut." When pushed over to the word "Open," it is open; when it is pushed to the word "Closed," it is closed, and no mistake. That is all there is to it. No one can use it wrong. EXAMINE THIS STOVE BEFORE YOU BUY.

FOR SALE BY

## LYTLE & ECKELS.

1888-1855-33

Buy  
Your

Meats  
Of

## IMBODEN BROS.

## FERRISS & LAPHAM, BOOTS AND SHOES.

GOODS DIRECT FROM THE FACTORIES.  
QUALITY ALWAYS THE BEST.

ALWA'S RELIABLE.

ALWAYS SATISFACTORY.

148 EAST MAIN STREET.

## DAILY REPUBLICAN.

### UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We will make

### GREAT REDUCTION

In the Price of

### Quaker City Preserves,

### JAMS AND JELLIES.

These goods are scarcely equaled, and are made entirely of *Fruit and Sugar*.

## DINGES & CLOYD.

FRIDAY EVE, MAY 11, 1888.

### LOCAL NEWS.

The Celebrated Alaska Refrigerators and Ice Chests, now on sale at E. D. BARTHOLOMEW & CO.'s.

COMMENCEMENT three weeks from today at the opera house.

Mr. SMITH is having the front of the opera block decked with fresh paint.

Hear the cradle song of all nations in costume at the opera house this evening.

SECURE your seats for the May Festival. Music Hall will seat 1800 people.

EDWIN PHILROUX has associated himself with C. R. Spore in the pension and treasury business.

"BUZZY G." the trotting nag from Illinois, has been entered for the races at North Vernon, Ind.

USE none but Hatfield & Co.'s celebrated White Flax flour and you will be happy.

By a decision of the Illinois Supreme Court the city of East St. Louis will be compelled to levy a tax to pay its entire bonded indebtedness, amounting to nearly a million dollars.

SELECT sweet strawberries, new potatoes and vegetables generally at J. Lytle & Co.'s grocery store.

RHEA will delight a large audience at the opera house Tuesday night in her character of "Camille," the original version.

TELEPHONE the Mound grocer for fruits, vegetables and berries.

It is said that Miss Emma Bond, of Taylorville, victim of the fiendish outrage, is soon to wed a wealthy cattle dealer in Texas.

GEORGE BRETT, the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium instructor, will give the first lesson to-night. Be on hand early. Visitors will be admitted to-night.

ASK for Shellabarger's always reliable White Loaf and Daily Bread flour.

THERE is some talk about making a change in the location of the Decatur Postoffice. It is centrally placed at present, but the room is deemed too small.

THE following are the officers of Fern Leaf Lodge No. 196, Knights of Pythias, at Argenta, clothed with authority by the organizer, L. D. Walker, Deputy Grand Chancellor: P. C., L. M. Lee; C. C., W. I. Dunbar; V. C., J. W. Kile; P. George Clement; M. of F., Joseph Holmick; M. of E., C. N. Denison; K. of R. and S., E. D. Carr; M. at A., O. D. Majors. A grand banquet was served at the close of the installation.

FINE display of early vegetables at Knodle & Osborne's grocery store every day.

HAVE your wall paper cleaned. For particulars call on or address L. T., 22 West King street.

Clothes and Jewell, who want to make the balloon ascension Thursday, are not meeting with flattering encouragement from the merchants.

STEP in and see the Moore Bros. in opera block for reliable groceries and a full supply of vegetables.

THE annual meeting of the German Baptists of the United States will convene near Cerro Gordo at Waggoner's grove on May 20th. A large number of Dunkards will be there, about a thousand.

YOU can get fresh butter, eggs, bacon and vegetables at Hanks & Patterson's family grocery store.

TRAVEL favor oil stoves and refrigerators can be had at Lytle & Eckels' hardware store.

DON't forget C. B. Prescott in opera block for Everett and Haines Bros. pianos. They are all favorites.

THE people of LaMoille, this state, have struck a sort of puzzle in their local politics. At the late election two candidates for president of the board of trustees came out a tie. Before the day arrived for casting lots to determine which was elected, one of them died. The question now is: Has a vacancy occurred, or is the survivor elected? Good judges, who have looked into the matter, are of the opinion that the lot will have to be cast precisely as if both were still living. If the deceased candidate is thus decided to be elected, there will be a vacancy. If not, the survivor will be entitled to be declared elected.

Mrs. L. S. ROUNDS, who lectured again on prohibition at Stapp's Chapel last evening before a large congregation, left the city to-day. She will address the W. C. T. U. county convention at Warrensburg to-morrow.

GO to Blank & Grass, opposite First M. E. church for the latest styles in Wall Paper.

DO you see the little Gem at Cheap Charley?

Apecular case of nervousness is that of a lady in South Troy, N. Y., whose attacks, it is said, usually terminate with the diaconate of the jaw.

NO WARING at Blank & Grass—P. A. Hanger. Opposite First M. E. church.

THE Bluegrass shop will make you low figures on vehicle work.

Removal Notice.

Dr. Pierce has moved her office from Dr. Smith's drug store, to 255 N. Main street, over Witzman's grocery store, 1st door, W. C. T. U. room, m-dm.

THE Old Reliable Peter Schuttler and Alpine Wagons for sale by Spencer & A. L. Mann.

THE lightest clothing house in Ill.

Frances & Lapham are getting in modern, stylish, solid, comfortable, serviceable boots and shoes as fast as can be made.

Power Musical College will be open all day.

Bur a pair of school shoes at Ferriss & Lapham's. A patent slate eraser given with every pair.

### Death of Mrs. J. M. Bower.

Mrs. Emma C. Bower, wife of J. M. Bower, who has been in poor health for a year, and had been confined to bed some days, died of consumption last night at 10:55 o'clock, at the family residence, No. 649 West North street, in the 30th year of her age. Emma C. Watson was born Nov. 30, 1858, in Piatt county, Ill. She professed a hope in Christ while yet a girl, and was a member of the Methodist church when she became the wife of Mr. Bower in 1879. Four years ago, while living in Des Moines, Iowa, she unitied with the Baptist church, having changed her views on baptism. She was baptized by Rev. T. J. Keith, D. D. When the family returned to Decatur she unitied with the Baptist church of this city, where she has been a faithful member and an earnest Christian worker. Mrs. Bower was a loving wife and a kind mother. She leaves two daughters, Viola Edith, aged 7 years, and Jeannette Mae, aged one and a half years, besides a husband and stepson to mourn their loss. It was the expressed desire of the deceased that her remains be laid beside those of her mother in the family burial ground in Piatt county, near Monticello.

The funeral will take place from the family residence on Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

### Lost Boys.

James Fagan, aged 14 years, and William Campion, both of Decatur, have left their homes and are believed to be somewhere in Kansas or Missouri. The parents are Mrs. Mary Campion and Mrs. Mary Fagan.

THIS forenoon Undertaker Ballard sent a casket to Mosquera for R. R. Gordon, aged 66 years, who died this morning at 1 o'clock of softening of the brain.

He was the father of ten children, all of whom are living. They are Randall and Isham Gordon, Martha Evans, Belle Gordon, Jennie Northcutt, Rachel Parsons, Mary, Nannie, Fannie and Annie Gordon.

Prof. Bull gave a number of his intangible violin recitations; he led several quartette violin recitations, assisted by Messrs. Hiram Keys, of Elkhart, Berlin Burrows, of Decatur, and Frank Cowgill, of Springfield. One of Hayden's choices, a Hungarian Rondo, was played by Mr. Hiram Keys; Mrs. Lehman and Miss John Hibbs sang several charming duets, while Mrs. John Hibbs and Mr. J. J. Gilligan sang.

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The essay, "A Composite," by the Decatur Art club, read by Mrs. J. E. Bering, was a very unique and brilliant production.

After a charming introduction full of local allusions, which were highly appreciated by her hearers, the composite author led the audience through the cabinet of curiosities, and then the four paths of speculative philosophy, referred to fashions, ancient and modern; touched upon coruscates and told of jars celestial and jars terrestrial, spoke of art and artists, scientists and philosophers, brightened every topic by the sparkle of wit and humor, and finally bade them good-bye in Volapuk.—*Springfield Journal*.

SPRINGFIELD.—The annual meeting of the State Board of Education was held at the Illinois State Teachers Association at its third meeting in Springfield in 1885.

He was elected president at the meeting held in Decatur in 1887, and presided with great acceptance at the stormy meeting held the next year in Galesburg.

For a period of 33 years he rarely missed a meeting of this body, being present in Springfield in December last.

The Peoria club was rendered a great service by Governor and Mrs. Oglesby.

At the executive mansion last evening, prior to the reception, in compliment to a number of Decatur friends.

Among those present, from out of town, were Mrs. Gallagher, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. O. Z. Greene and Mrs. Greene, Miss Alice Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. G. Powers, Miss Powery, Mrs. McReynolds, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hurd, of Decatur; Mrs. H. D. Spencer, of Bloomington; Mrs. Luz, of Lincoln; Prof. Ober, of Decatur; Mr. Keays, Mrs. Gillette and Miss Lotte Gillette of Rialton.

In Justice Curtis' court to-day Mrs. Wilhelmina Grawkowsky was fined a total of \$11.20 for creating a disturbance and trouncing Gottlieb Grosbom, a resident of the fifth ward.

A. G. Webster appeared for the defendant and David Hutchinson for the prosecution.

### PERSONAL MENTION.

Clark Hedges is a new salesman at H. B. Lewis' grocery store.

John W. January, the noted Andersonville prisoner, will lecture in the town hall at Illinois May 15.

Mrs. J. A. Buckingham has gone to Colorado on a visit. She started yesterday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Young on Thursday, May 10, twins—two daughters.

Mrs. James Miller returned Wednesday from Danville where she visited among friends for several days.

Capt. B. H. Tuller, of Galesburg, is in the city. He will remain here several days.

Gov. and Mrs. R. J. Oglesby arrived in the city to-day from Springfield. Mrs. Oglesby is the guest of Mrs. J. F. Root.

Mrs. Jason Rogers and Mrs. E. A. Gastman attended the Art Union reception last night at the capital.

Will Tuller is in the employ of Burt & Co., commission merchants. He is traveling most of the time.

Rev. E. D. Wilkin, of Carlinville, brother of Judge Wilkin, will deliver the memorial address at Cerro Gordo on Decatur Day.

Judge Thornton, H. J. Hamlin and S. W. Moulton, of Shelbyville, and Judge Craig, of Mattoon, are attending court at Sullivan.

County Clerk Hardy will return to-morrow from Rochester, N. Y., whether he went Sunday night to testify in the pension case.

Supt. Stratton, of the Decatur Gas company, and B. K. Durfee, the secretary, were in Chicago during the week attending a conference of gas companies.

Plat Davis, a former Decaturite, has settled down to real life in Bloomington. He is now a married man, and is putting in full time at a barber shop.

Mrs. Dr. Ira N. Barnes and sister, Mrs. Anna, were at the Decatur ladies who attended the reception given by Mrs. Gev. Oglesby at Springfield last night.

Springfield Monitor: Mrs. Ed. Grunhardt, of Decatur, accompanied by Miss Hayward, of that city, arrived in the city on the morning train, and will spend a few days visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Booth, at their residence on South Sixth street.

### Masonic.

Special communication of Macon Lodge No. 8, A. F. and A. M., this Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Members invited.

C. L. Hovey, a young man recently returned from the West, will speak.

Miss Anna J. Foland, of Decatur, will speak.

T. W. Pinkerton Sec'y.

The Brick That Fifer Made.

Wolf Griesbach, proprietor of the U. S. clothing store, is exhibiting in the front window of his store a half dozen brick made by his father in 1858. They were made on the farm near Danvers, on which Mr. Fifer's father then lived, and is now owned and occupied by Mr. Peter Elkins.

The brick were put into the foundation of the house built by Mr. Fifer's father. The brick are in good state of preservation, and are said to be the largest ever made by the young farmer, and now almost governor of Illinois.—*Bloomington Pantagraph*.

A SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAIN

To the Illinois State Sunday School Convention.

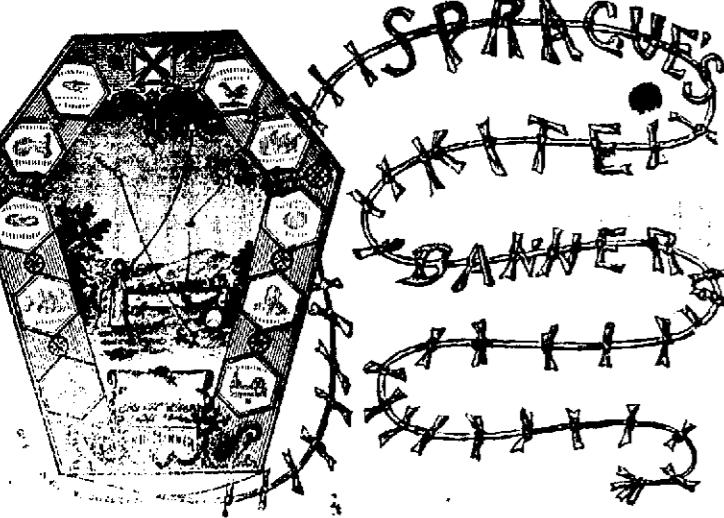
Will be run from Cairo to Rockford, on Tuesday, May 22d, over the Illinois Central Railroad. Fare, \$5.00 only, for the round trip. This train will carry delegations only; train leaves Cairo at 1:45 a.m. Tuesday morning, stopping at intermediate points, arriving in Decatur 12:40 p.m.; leaves Decatur 9:30 p.m. For complete information apply to the Illinois Central Railroad Company.

For rates of fare, tickets, or information regarding routes to all points north, south, west, or northwest, call on or address O. O. Johnson, 100 W. C. T. U. room, m-dm.

Mr. Fifer, who will furnish maps, folders, etc., showing time of departure and arrival at destination.

For rates of fare, tickets, or information regarding routes to all points north, south, west, or northwest, call on or address O. O. Johnson, 100 W. C. T. U. room, m-dm.

For rates of fare, tickets, or information regarding routes to all points north,



# HOUSE CHOCK FULL OF BARGAINS!

JOHN IRWIN'S WHITE FRONT.

\*OTTENHEIMER & CO.\*

Special Sale

OF  
BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S  
CLOTHING.

Our New Spring and Summer Styles  
are Now Ready.

Boys' Suits, 4 to 14; Knee Pants in Sailors,  
Plaited, Norfolks and Plain, from \$1.50 to  
\$10, in Worsted, Cassimeres and Cheviots.  
Newest shades for the Spring and  
Summer season.

Boys' Suits from 10 to 18 years. Our \$5 and  
\$6 all wool suits are SPECIAL BAR-  
GAINS; Our medium and fine goods, at  
\$7, \$8, \$9 and \$10, are good values.

Fine Suits for Dress Wear at \$11 to \$15, in  
Sack and Cutaway FROCKS, all this  
Spring's goods, Newest Styles, at the  
very Lowest Prices.

ALL MARKED IN PLAIN SELLING FIGURES.

With each SUIT we give you gratis a  
COMBINATION RULER.

\*OTTENHEIMER & CO.,\*

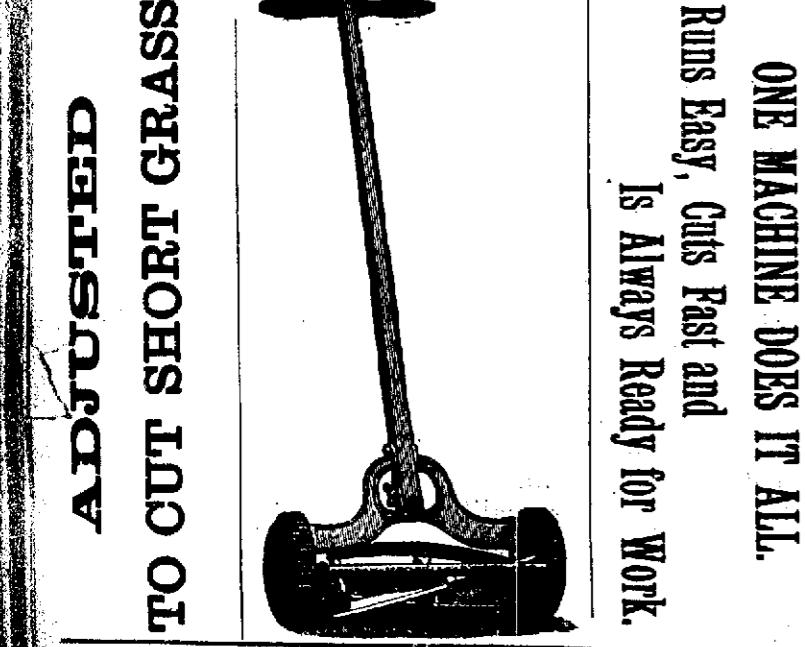
135 East Main Street, Decatur.  
One Price Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers.

Agents for Knox Stiff and Silk Hats.

\*THE CHEAPEST AND BEST.\*

THE IMPROVED  
\*SUPERIOR LAWN MOWER.\*

No Extra Machine required for Cutting High Grass.



ONE MACHINE DOES IT ALL.  
Runs Easy, Cuts Fast and  
IS ALWAYS Ready for WORK.

To make room for other goods we have determined  
to close out our stock of Lawn Mowers at a big reduction.  
Each machine guaranteed to be as represented.

\*H. MUELLEER & SONS,\*

Street.

## BROKEN BONDS.

The Great Divorce Market for  
Dissatisfied People.

THEIR RUSH TO CHICAGO TOWN.

Let Them Hurry Up, for the Illinois  
Judges Are Getting Tired of Strangers  
and Propose to Confine Decrees to Chi-  
cagoans of Illinois—Divorcees.

[Special Correspondence.]

CHICAGO, May 8.—Envoy onlookers may  
deny Chicago's right to be considered an art  
center or a seat of culture and learning, but  
they cannot gainsay her pre-eminence in the  
matter of divorces. This bustling and pro-  
gressive city has gained almost as much reputa-  
tion by her divorces as by her conflagra-  
tions and pork. Jokes and gibles concerning  
Chicago divorces pass current everywhere.  
"Chicago: Ten minutes for divorce!" shouts  
the barker on the ministerial stage, and  
thousands laugh. Why they should laugh I  
cannot imagine, for there is no more serious  
business than this one of getting a divorce.  
If you do not believe it, try it. But not  
for your own sake, fall into the error, more  
or less common, that the country, or  
anywhere else in Chicago, divorces are  
asked for, or sold as glasses of beer or  
boxes of bonbons and other delicacies and  
necessities are sold in the shops. Divorce  
hunting mortals have come here believing  
they could procure a divorce the day after  
their arrival and in time to catch the evening  
train for home; it is not necessary to go  
through a thousand difficulties to obtain  
a divorce. While it is true that  
Chicago, facile and forward in all things,  
does carry on the divorce business with some-  
thing like neatness and dispatch, it is also  
true that there are certain forms to be ob-  
served here as elsewhere, certain conventions  
and amenities which must be respected.  
Chicago is not so bad as she is painted in  
the papers, however. There are no such  
conventions and customs as are made out.  
The courts are making an effort to  
exercise a little more dignity and  
circumspection in their divorce proceedings,  
such as closing their doors against the Saturday  
crowds, which have long made "divorce  
day" a carnival, as we say in the wild  
west, a picnic of sin, sorrow and scandal.  
People who do not live in Chicago, but who  
are here looking ready to leave for a  
season for a certain purpose, will be interested  
in knowing that the courts are also  
making an effort to discriminate against and  
entirely circumvent the numerous matrimonial  
squatters who pre-empt a brief and  
fleeting Chicago residence with the sole  
advantage of the lax divorce laws of Illinois.

Still even including the imported cases,  
Chicago's divorce record compares favorably  
with that of Puritan New England. Here  
our divorce granted to sixteen marriages.  
This is bad enough, heaven knows. But even  
this proportion is not so great as that in Connecticut,  
where the divorce rate of eight out of  
every hundred goes to the dogs. In Rhode Island,  
where a divorce is twice as frequent as in  
Illinois, there is a divorce sequel, nor yet so  
agreeable to the lawyers as the showing  
made by the farmers of Vermont, among  
whom there is a divorce in every dozen mar-  
riages. Even Massachusetts is more fond of  
divorce than Illinois, the average there  
being a dissolution for every fifteen con-  
tracts.

In every state of the Union, as well as  
in every civilized country, where divorce is  
recognized at all, disobedience of the Seven-  
tenths commandment is in Illinois sufficient  
cause for divorce absolution. Other causes in  
this state are desertion for a period exceeding  
two years, exacting maintenance, adultery,  
bigamy, infidelity, and failure to support.  
But these are not the most hot laws to be  
found in this country. In Indiana, Connecticut  
and some other states non-support is a  
good ground, while in some others so slight  
and common a misfortune as incompatibility  
of temper will suffice. In New York and one  
or two of the New England states adultery is  
the sole cause for which absolute divorce is  
granted, and in those states divorce is ex-  
ceptionally rare.

A great source of trouble in Illinois is that  
while the law requires complainant to have  
been for at least one year an actual resident  
of the state, it does not compel the offering  
of proof of such residence. And when, as is  
generally the case, the defendant appears  
in court, there is no one to dispute the claim  
of legal residence, the applicant stands a very  
good chance. Thus, the judge sometimes  
has his suspicions aroused, and is inclined to  
ask pertinent questions for his own satisfac-  
tion, but if the eager seeker for relief from  
matrimonial woes is willing to commit per-  
jury and he generally is—the court is com-  
pelled to believe the story and hear the  
evidence.

The weakest point in the Illinois law is  
that it does not require personal service of  
any process upon the defendant. An attache  
of the district court in this city remanded  
a woman who was in her day divorced  
six times, once as the plaintiff and five times  
as the defendant. She had been a resident  
of the state for one year; that his wife is a  
non-resident, and that her whereabouts is to  
the next tenant, is desertion just as much  
as if the removal were to a foreign country.  
Again, even though a husband pays for his  
wife's support, he is guilty of desertion if he  
refuses to live with her. But the husband  
has the right to choose the home, and where  
he goes his wife must follow, no matter how  
much against her will, or the guilty of deser-  
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The records of the Chicago divorce courts  
show an interesting figure: two-thirds of

the half of the suits result in divorce. Of course,  
the most frequent charge, cruelty coming  
next, adultery, and finally drunkenness.

Excluding the Catholic population there is  
a man divorce suit to 31 marriages. A  
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from the penitentiary, whether he should  
have been sent for his poverty and general  
culpability.

Courts often respond in this city, the  
law of the state providing that cases may be  
brought within three years of the date of  
decree. This is supposed to give defendants  
a chance to correct the injustice of ex parte  
proceedings, but the provision is one of  
doubtful public policy. Serious complications  
sometimes arise from the reopening of  
cases, decrees being set aside, new trials  
being demanded again. Could you imagine  
anything more unpleasant than a state of affairs  
like that? It is not absolutely safe to  
remain after a Chicago divorce till three  
years have passed, but in a vast majority of  
cases one or the other of the emancipated  
parties is wedged again in three months. In  
fact, that is the greatest risk of all, for the  
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